Price rise of food items

3073. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that prices are rising continuously of wheat, onion and oil besides other essential items;

(b) if so, whether Government is taking any step to effectively control the price rise in the interest of common man;

(c) whether Government is considering to make available wheat, onion, oil and other essential items in retail stores throughout the country to control the price rise; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Government is aware of rise in prices of certain essential commodities such as pulses, sugar, and potato.

(b) As a result of the Various steps taken by the Government, prices of certain essential commodities such as wheat, edible oil have generally declined or are steady. Government measures to effectively control the price rise of essential commodities are given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Wheat, Rice, Sugar, Kerosene oil are made available through PDS. A Statement indicating Additional commodities being distributed through PDS outlets (as reported by State/UTs) is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

List of Government Measures

(A) Short Term Measures

1. **Fiscal Measures**

(i) Reducing import duties to zero – for wheat, pulses, edible oils (crude) and maize (under TRQ of 5 lakh tonnes per annum, beyond which 15% duty will apply);

(ii) Reducing import duties on refined and hydrogenated oils and vegetable oils to 7.5%;

(iii) Reducing the import duty on Skimmed Milk Powder (SMP) from 15% to 5%.

2. **Administrative Measures**

(i) The export of edible oils is permitted in branded consumer packs of up to 5 kgs, subject to a limit of 10,000 tonnes during the next one year up to 31st October, 2009.

(ii) Export of wheat and wheat products (atta, maida and suji) was permitted after 15th May 2009, with a cap of 2 million tonnes in 2009-10.

(iii) Banning export of non-basmati rice, edible oils and pulses (except kabuli chana).

(iv) Export not more than 20 lakh tonnes of rice, on diplomatic basis through the MEA to friendly countries in KMS 2008-09.

(v) No changes in Tariff Rate Values of edible oils;

(vi) Imposition of stock limit orders in the case of paddy, rice, pulses, edible oils and oilseeds;

(vii) The periodic enhancements in MSP – currently Rs. 1080 per quintal for wheat, Rs. 850 per quintal for common rice and Rs. 880 per quintal for Grade A rice, to maximize procurement of wheat and rice.

(viii) Using Minimum Export Price (MEP) to regulate exports of onion (averaging at $185 per tonne for June, 2009) and basmati rice ($1100 PMT) *w.e.f* 20.01.2009;

(ix) Maintaining the Central Issue Price (CIP) for rice at Rs. 5.65 per kg for BPL and Rs. 3 per kg for AAY) and wheat at Rs. 4.15 per kg for BPL and Rs. 2 per kg for AAY since July, 2002.

(x) Futures trading in Rice, Wheat, Urad and Tur suspended by the Forward Market Commission in the year 2007-08 continued during the year 2008-09. Futures trading in sugar has been suspended *w.e.f.* 27.5.2009 upto 31st December, 2009.

(xi) Distribution of one million tons of imported edible oils to States/UTs at a subsidy @ Rs. 15/kg.

(xii) To augment availability of pulses, the Public Sector Undertakings (namely, STC, MMTC, and PEC) and NAFED were permitted to import and sell pulses under a scheme and losses, if any, upto 15% are reimbursed by the Government.

(xiii) Government allowed import of raw sugar under advance authorization Scheme and permitted sugar factories to sell processed raw sugar in the domestic market and fulfill export obligation on ton to ton basis.

(xiv) Allowed import of raw sugar under Advance Authorization Scheme by sugar mills (at zero duty) upto 30.9.2009 (notified on 17.2.2009 and 2.3.2009).

(xv) Allowed import of raw sugar at zero duty under O.G.L. upto 1.8.2009 by sugar mills (notified on 17.4.2009).

(xvi) Allowed import of white/refined sugar by STC/MMTC/PEC and NAFED upto 1 million tonnes by 1.8.2009 under O.G.L. at zero duty (notified on 17.4.2009).

(xvii) Levy obligation was removed in respect of all imported raw sugar and white/refined sugar.

(xviii) Released 6 lakh tonnes of additional non levy sugar for April-June, 2009 Quarter taking the total release to 60 lakh tonnes against 50 lakh tonnes in corresponding Quarter in 2008 and 50 lakh tonnes in January-March, 2009.

(xix) The availability of non-levy sugar for April'09 including the additional quota released stood at 22 lac tons against 17 lacs for March, 2009 and 17 lac tons for April, 2008. For the month of May, 2009, release of non-levy sugar including additional quota released stood at 21 lac tons as against 17.5 lac tons for May, 2008. For the month of June, 2009, the release of non-levy sugar stands at 16 lac tons as against release of 13.5 lac tons for June, 2008. Besides about 1 lac ton of raw sugar imported and reprocessed by sugar mills have been released during the month of June, 2009.

(B) Medium Term Measures:

In the medium term, Government has taken initiatives such as Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize(ISOPOM), National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) to improve production and productivity in agriculture.

Statement

Additional commodities being distributed through PDS outlets other than Wheat, Rice, Coarsegrains, Sugar and Kerosene oil (as reported by respective State/UT). As on 30.06.2009

Sl. No.	State/UT	Name of Item/ Commodity	Additional Commodities (except rice, wheat, coarsegrain, sugar and kerosene) being distributed through PDS outlets at:—	
			Subsidized rates	Normal rate
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Enriched Wheat floor	Rs. 10/- per kg.	Rs. 20/- to 25/- per kg.
		2. Iodized Salt (G.M)	Rs. 4/- per kg.	Rs. 8/- per kg. and above
		3. Red Gram Dal	Rs. 30/- per kg.	Rs. 40/- per kg. and above
		4. Tamarind	Rs. 30/- per kg. Gr.I	Rs. 34/- to 35/- per kg.
		5. P. Oil	Rs. 30/- per kg.	Rs. 40/- to 46/- per kg.
		6. Black Gram Dal	Rs. 45/- per litr.	Rs. 48/- to 55/- per lit.
		7. Green Gram Dal	Rs. 43/- per kg.	Rs. 55/- per kg.
			Rs. 42/- per kg.	Rs. 52/- per kg.
		8. Palmolein Oil	Rs. 45/-	Rs. 59/- and above
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	— Edible Oil — Pulses — Vanaspati Ghee	These items are sold on FPS outlets at the normal rates	Normal Rates for all the items

1	2	3	4	5
		— Milk Powder — Baby Food — Dry Cells — Matches — All types of soap — Paper including newsprint, paper boar and straw boar — Hurricane Lanterns — Lead writing pencils — Exercise books — Butter — Tea — Yarn		
3.	Assam	1. Iodised salt under State Zonal quota	Rs. 4.70/- per kg. (powder packet)	Rs. 8/- to Rs. 10/- per kg.
		2. -do-	Rs. 3.50/- per kg (crushed)	Nil
4.	Bihar	The State Government has issued instruction to all District Collectors to sold the following additional items other than PDS items through FPS. 1. Milk and Milk Products. 2. Cosmetic for use of rural areas 3. Daily use items *i.e.* Salt, Tea, Pulses, Stationary items, Soap, Tootpaste, Edible oil etc. 4. 5 Kg. LPG Cylinder. 5. Postal items. 6. Operate the telephone booth for BSNL and other than private companies, sim card and recharge coupon etc.		
5.	Chhattisgarh	Iodized Amrit Salt	25 paise per kg. for BPL, AAY and ANP families	Rs. 4.00 per kg. for APL families

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Delhi	No additional commodities is sold through FPS on subsidized rates	No additional commodities is sold through FPS on subsidized rates	— Iodised Salt — All types of edible oil — All kinds of pulses — Candles — Spices — Soaps/detergent powder — Toothpaste — Tea leaves
7.	Goa	1. Sugar	—	Rs. 17/- to 21/- per kg.
		2. Turdal	—	Rs. 42/- to 46/- per kg.
		3. Masur dal	—	Rs. 55/- per kg.
		4. Jaggary	—	Rs. 22/- to 24/- per kg.
		5. Rava	—	Rs. 18/- to 20/- per kg.
		6. Atta	—	Rs. 11/- to 17/- per kg.
		7. Maida	—	Rs. 17/- to 18/- per kg.
		8. Tea	—	Rs. 90/- to 150/- per kg
		9. Palmoleine Oil	—	Rs. 50/- per packet.
		10. Urd dal	—	Rs. 50/- per kg.
		11. Watana	—	Rs. 30/- to 44/- per kg.
		12. Nachani	—	Rs. 13/- per kg.
		13. Green Peas	—	Rs. 32/- per kg.
		14. Masur	—	Rs. 45/- per kg.
		15. Ground nut	—	Rs. 50/- per kg.
		16. Moog dal	—	Rs. 50/- per kg.
		17. Moog	—	Rs. 42/- to 45/- per kg.
		18. Pohe	—	Rs. 22/- per kg.
		19. Salt	—	Rs. 5/- to 8/- per kg.
		20. Coconuts	—	Rs. 6/- to 10/-
		21. Jodhala	—	Rs. 12/- per kg
		22. Bajari	—	Rs. 12/- per kg
		23. Exercise books (100 pages)	—	Rs. 12/-
		Exercise books (200 pages)	—	Rs. 18/-
8.	Gujarat	1. Iodized Salt 2. Edible Oil	1. Iodized Salt — Rs. 0.50 per kg. 2. Edible Oil — Lower price than the open marked price	—

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Haryana	The State Government has issued instructions to all District Food and Supply Officer to sell also items other than PDS items *i.e.* Pulses, Copies, Vegetable Oil, Candle, Match Box, Salt and Soap through FPS and the State Government has no objection in regard.	—	—
10.	Himachal Pradesh	l.. Dal Malka 2. Dal Channa 3. Urad Sabut 4. Mustard Oil 5. Refined Oil 6. Iodized Oil	Rs. 20 per kg. Rs. 25 per kg Rs. 25 per kg Rs. 45 per kg Rs. 40 per kg Rs. 4 per kg	Rs. 37 per kg. Rs. 33 per kg. Rs. 39 per kg. Rs. 65 per kg. Rs. 55 per kg. Rs. 8 per kg.
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	No item other than PDS items is sold through FPS.	—	—
12.	Jharkhand	Iodised salt	2 Kg. for BPL family per month @ Rs. 0.25 per kg.	
13.	Karnataka	The State Government has intimated that no non-PDS items are being supplied through FPS in Karnataka State		
14.	Kerala	l. Green Gram 2. U.D. Washed 3. U.D. Split 4. B.G. Bold 5. Lobia 6. Toordal 7. Peasdhal 8. Chillies 9. Corriander 10. Cuminseed 11. Mustard	36.00 49.00 47.00 29.00 27.00 29.00 19.00 57.00 35.00 96.00 23.00	48.00 67.75 62.30 47.00 42.50 39.50 29.00 87.75 57.50 139.50 36.00

1	2	3	4	5
		12. Methi	30.00	48.25
		13. Sabari tea	75.00	87.00
		14. Sabari Palm Oil 1 ltr.	47.00	48.00
		15. Free flow salt 1 kg.	5.00	6.00
		16. Crystal Salt 1 kg.	2.75	4.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	No item other than PDS items is sold through FPS.	—	—
16.	Maharashtra	Not reported		
17.	Manipur	Not reported		
18.	Meghalaya	Not reported		
19.	Mizoram	No item other than PDS items is sold through FPS-Nil	Nil	Nil
20.	Nagaland	Not reported		
21.	Orissa	The Government has allowed to FPS owners to sale non-PDS commodities in FPS. FPS have been allowed to operate Public Telephone Booth.		
22.	Punjab	The State Government has intimated that a large number of FPS are already selling non PDS alongwith PDS items.		
23.	Rajasthan	Iodized Salt		
24.	Sikkim	FPSs in the State are permitted to sell all consumer items, however, no subsidy is provided to the additional items/ commodities sold by them.		
25.	Tamil Nadu	I.. Toor Dhal	Rs. 34.00 per kg.	Rs. 40.00 per kg.
		2. Oral Dhal	Rs. 40.00 per kg.	Rs. 46.00 per kg.
		3. Palm Oil	Rs. 40.00 per liter	Rs. 50.00 per liter
		4. Rava	Rs. 17.00 per kg.	Rs. 22.00 per kg.
		5. Maida	Rs. 16.00 per kg.	Rs. 20.00 per kg.

1	2	3	4	5
		6. Fortified wheat flour.	Rs. 11.00 per kg.	Rs. 17.00 per kg.
		7. Turmeric Powder-50 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30
		8. Chill Powder-250 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30
		9. Coriander Powder-250 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30
		10. Channa Dal-75 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30
		11. Methi Dal-25 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30
		12. Mustard-25 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30
		13. Soump-25 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30
		14. Pepper-25 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30
		15. Zeera-50 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30
		16. Lavang-10 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30
26.	Tripura	1. Atta (wheat is converted into whole meal atta)	Rs. 8.75 per kg.	Not furnished
		2. Iodized Salt in I (one) kg poly packet	Rs. 3.50 per kg.	Not furnished
27.	Uttaranchal	Not reported		
28.	Uttar Pradesh	— Soap — Toothpaste — Oil — Pulses — Iodized Salt — Tea — ORS Tablet — Condom and Sanitary napkins	These items are sold on FPS outlets at the normal rates	Normal Rates for all the items
29	West Bengal	1. Mustard Oil Iodized 2. Salt (a) Essential (b) Labonya	Rs. 50/- liter Rs. 3.50 per kg. Rs. 5.50 per kg.	Consumer price has been fixed by the Government at a rate 10% lower than that of the open market.
30	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	No item other than PDS items is sold through FPS.	—	—
31	Chandigarh	FPS are granted to the karyana merchants who apart from distributing		

1	2	3	4	5
		the Essential commodities under TPDS to BPL and AAY are also retailing grocery items and other items of daily use like Toothpaste, soaps, detergent powder, tea, salt, match boxes etc.		
32	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	No item other than PDS items is sold through FPS.	—	—
33	Daman and Diu	Not reported		
34	Lakshadweep	1. Atta 2. Maidha 3. Green gram 4. Toordhall 5. Palm oil 6. Coconut oil 7. Chilies 8. Spices 9. Tea dust 10. Milk products 11. Detergent powder 12. Toilet soaps 13. Salt 14. Cement 15. Steel 16. River sand 17. Granite metal 18. Cloth items 19. Electrical goods etc.		Normal Rates for all the items.
35	Pondicherry	1. Toor Dhal	Rs. 34/- per Kg.	Rs. 50/- per kg.
		2. Black Gram Dhal	Rs. 26/- per kg.	Rs. 40/- per kg.
		3. Coriander	Rs. 59/- per kg.	Rs. 100/- per kg.
		4. Chillies	Rs. 18.50/- half kg.	Rs. 65/- per kg.
		5. Iodised Powdered Salt	Nil	Rs. 3.50
		6. Tamarind	Nil	Rs. 17.50
		7. Palm Oil	Rs. 40/- per litre	Rs. 53/- per litre